

August

Magic Lantern Society
of the United States and Canada



LOOK for those Buttons and roll-over effects

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Click slide to see how you can help!



The Magic Lantern Calendar – August 2023

Events

Sept. 16, 2023, *James Burgess's Magic Lantern Show*, showing sculptures and props including a complete original Alice in Wonderland magic lantern set from 1905, Hastings Steampunk Festival, White Rock Theatre, White Rock, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1JX, England, UK.

Sept. 21, 2023, *Nellie Bly Around the World in 72 Days*, magic lantern show by Elliott & Schlemowitz, Magic Lanternists, George Eastman Museum, Rochester, NY.

Oct. 14, 2023, *Autumn meeting 2023*, Magic Lantern Society, The Birmingham and Midland Institute, 9 Margaret Street, Birmingham B3 3BS, England, UK.

Exhibits

Through Aug. 13, 2023, *Light Images in Chinese Contemporary Art*, anew genealogy of the slide and its legacy on the foundational years of Chinese contemporary art, UCCA Beijing, 798 Art District, No. 4 Jiuxianqiao Road, Chaoyang District 100015 Beijing, China

Through August, *Making the Modern World: A Century+ of Progress*, based on the 1933 Chicago World's Fair, includes magic lantern, Brick Store Museum, 117 Main Street, Kennebunk, ME.

Through Sept. 17, 2023, *Sarah Sze: The Waiting Room*, video sculpture / phantasmagoria, Peckham Rye Station, London, UK.

Through Sept. 24, 2023, *Friday Road Show and Ghibli Exhibition*, featuring the Ghibli Magic Lantern Tower, Tennoz, Tokyo, Warehouse Terrada B&C Hall, E Hall, Japan.

continued next page

The Magic Lantern Calendar – August 2023 continued

Exhibits continued

Through Dec. 2026, *The Story of the Moving Image*, includes shadow puppets, Victorian-era magic lanterns, original cameras and more, Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Fed Square, Melbourne, Australia <https://www.acmi.net.au/whats-on/story-of-the-moving-image-exhibition/>.

Ongoing, *The Path to Cinema: Highlights from the Richard Balzer Collection*, Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, Los Angeles CA USA. 9,000 magic lantern objects collected by former MLS president Richard Balzer. <https://www.academymuseum.org/en/exhibitions/path-to-cinema>

Online

Magic Lantern Performing Group, Improve your skills every other Wednesday on Zoom. Contact Terry Borton: tborton@magiclanternshows.com

De Luikerwaal Dutch Virtual Museum, <https://www.luikerwaal.com/> Magic lantern history, pictures, stories.

Lucerna – the Magic Lantern Web Resource, online database collaboration covering all aspects of magic lanterns. <http://lucerna.exeter.ac.uk/>

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The Museum of American Magic Lantern Shows, 5-minute intro, 10-minute Highlights Tour, 30-minute In-Depth Tour and Kids' Page. www.magiclanternmuseum.com

To add your magic lantern show, exhibition, or other event to our calendar, or to list your show for potential bookings, drop a line to briandrogers@gmail.com.



A Thank You

**For
Society Effort**

From Vanessa Hines

jessiehines@bellsouth.net

Good afternoon,

I reside in South Florida and, following my parents' demise, I have come into possession of a number of Magic Lantern slides. They are very old; some are black images on a clear background and others are in color. They reside in what may be the original wood boxes with metal latches (also very old). I don't know much about these slides but just came across them when going through my parents' things. (I also found some old viewing equipment, but I don't think there are any Magic Lanterns.)

Anyway, assuming there is some historical significance, I would like to donate these slides to your organization. Should there be any interest, please contact me at jessiehines@bellsouth.net. Thank you for your time.

Vanessa Hines

From David Evans

Good afternoon to you Vanessa

Thank you for contacting us. The Society does not have a museum or official collection, due in part to the fact that members are scattered throughout the USA and Canada, and in many other countries too. However, some of our members do rescue items of historical interest, research them and publish articles in one of our journals, so that the membership does benefit from such actions.

I suggest we include your message in our next e-publication (August now, as we have just sent out the July edition) as there may well be a member in your area who might be able to help. They would contact you directly if so.

Could you please let us have a few pictures of some slides and possibly the viewing equipment?

Again, thank you for contacting us.

David Evans

On Monday, July 17, 2023

From Vanessa Hines

Good morning, David,

Well, life is strange! I had a buyer come by the house to look at glassware; he saw the Magic Lantern slides and bought them! He was knowledgeable about the slides, as he has a customer who has bought slides from him before. Consequently, there is now no need to post the information in your newsletter. Having said that, I thank you so much for your willingness and kindness in helping me to rescue the slides. (And, I'm so happy they're going to a good home!)

Vanessa



Life In The Lantern

"Life in the Lantern"

In 1865 John Arthur Roebuck Rudge, a native of Bath, began his researches on the subject of the portrayal of movement by photographic means, using an optical lantern to show images on a screen by means of lantern slides taken to show successive phases of movement. This invention Rudge called "Life in the Lantern," and he undoubtedly succeeded in mystifying his audiences by showing on the screen a human head going through the movements of facial contortion. Some time later Rudge improved on his invention and produced what he called the "Bio-Phantoscope," an instrument which contained moving parts working from one rotating handle almost similar to those of the present-day motion-picture projection machine. It was, indeed, the "Bio-Phantoscope" which taught W. Friese-Greene, the inventor of commercial cinematography, how to make a picture come to life upon the screen. Another inventor who gave lifelike movement to the picture of a human head was Beale, of Greenwich, who in 1867-8 invented an arrangement whereby 16 full-sized views of a man's face painted upon a glass disc were exposed through an opening cut to represent the man's head and shoulders, the face being shown

smiling and making a series of grimaces. Mr. Beale was also the inventor of the "Choreutoscope," a mechanical lantern slide for showing various phases of movement. Another method of exhibiting cinematographic effects which was invented about the same period was to bind the pictures in book form by one edge, and then release them from the other in rapid succession by means of the thumb or some mechanical device as the book was bent backwards. The subject was thus viewed, not by projection, but directly, either with the unaided eye or through a magnifying glass. Such was the invention patented on March 18, 1868, by Linnett, who gave it the name of "Linnett's Kineograph." A year later came another "wheel of life," the invention of Thomas Ross the younger. This invention embodied all the principles subsequently adopted by Thomas Alva Edison in his "Kinetoscope." In 1870 Professor E. J. Marey, of Paris, embarked on the research of the analysis of motion, and after many failures he secured in what he called a "Stereozoetrope" some remarkable records of movement, including photographs showing the blood and heart in action and the movement of gnats' wings.

The international photographer (Feb-Dec 1929)

by International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industry

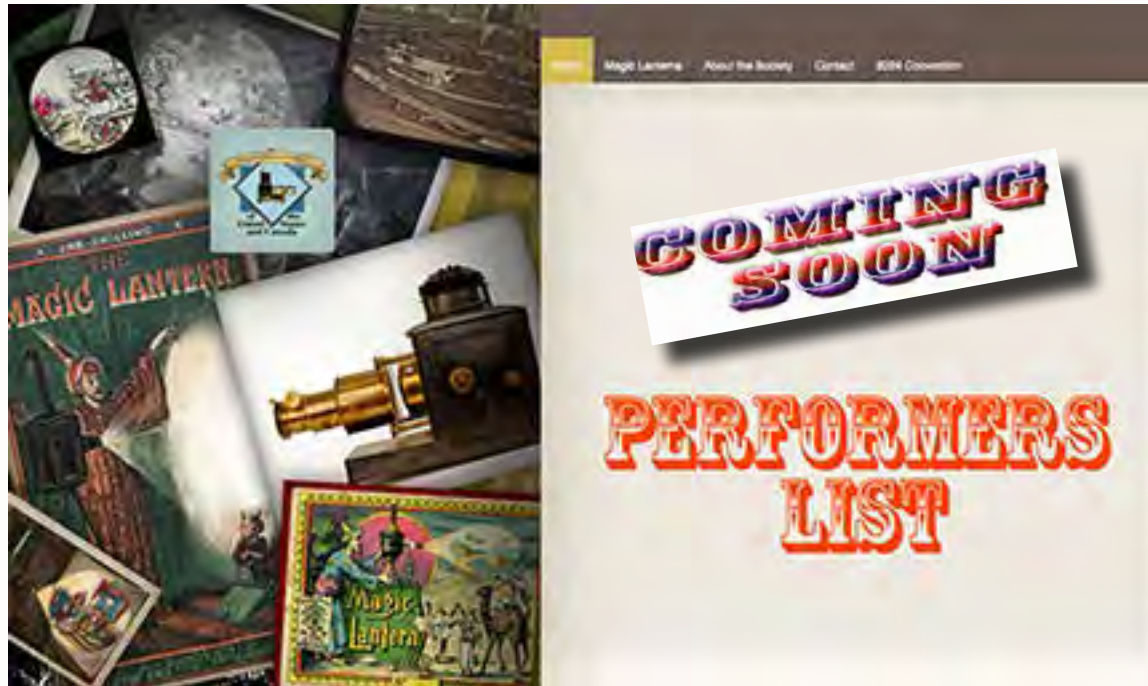
The Society will add a Performers List to our Society Webpage.

From Ron Easterday

This is a volunteer list, if you provide me the information, we will post it. If you change your mind or stop giving shows, please let the Society know so your information can be removed.

We will list information only for active members as a convenience for them.

We'd like to keep it simple – the idea is to help connect the rest of the world with you and then you take all the communication from there:



- **Name**
- **Performance group Name, if any**
- **State, region, or County, like New England area or Pacific Northwest, as you prefer.**
We will not post full address unless you specifically request it.
- **Preferred contact information i.e. email or other**
- **Link to webpage or social media page if you have one specific to your performances, not a generic social media page you use for all communication**
- **A couple sentences about what types of shows, if you wish.**

We will include a disclaimer such as “The Society is providing this list as a courtesy to help interested parties connect with Society members that perform magic lantern shows or exhibitions, both traditional and new interpretations of the media. This listing does not constitute endorsement or approval by the Society in any manner; all performers are acting independently of the Society.”

Ron Easterday

Gazette Addition



From Ron Easterday

Rhodes Opera House Fire Revisited,
Gazette - June 2023

The Endnote numbers were inadvertently omitted from most of the text and from all the Endnotes list in the published article. If you are interested in further research, please contact me at rlasterday@comcast.net and I am happy to send you a pdf with the full Endnote references and the photo that goes with Endnote 10. Also please note the photos of the tragedy were provided by the Editor, not the author.

Magic Lantern Slides

at



Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society

October 7th at Kent Common, WA

<https://www.pspcs.org/>

From Chuck and Sara Meyer

Sara and I'll be bringing several hundred slides with us to the 7 Oct meeting in Kent. We'd like to find a happy buyer for these. A VERY short list of those is many early CA town images, gold mining with dredges, etc, Indian cliff dwellings, interior grand central RR station NYC, a real hodge-podge of images.

We would like to see these get into the hands of people or organizations that preserve such things.

Chuck meyer

503 325 7969

From Ron Easterday

Letting Bob, Brian, Dale, Halls, Larry, Matt know about upcoming sale.

Hope one of you is in the mood to buy some slides this fall. Matt, do you want us to look for CA town images?

This will be the Fall PSPCS Camera Show/Sale on Oct 7 in Kent.

Ron

From Lee A. Lewis
Unity Secretary
unity130secretary@gmail.com



Slides Used in Masonic Lodges

Dear Sir or Madam

I was doing a project researching old slides used in masonic lodges. In one of my discussions with a past secretary I was informed that we actually possess a number of slides. I went searching and found a box of old glass slides that were once used in the lodge. Unfortunately the box they were in was not well sealed and the slides themselves are somewhat dusty.

I have done some searching and found a couple of different articles on cleaning glass slides. (Also a lot of articles on how to get paint off of glass, I disregarded those.) Any information you could share with me on cleaning and storing lantern slides would be appreciated.

Thank you.

--

Lee A. Lewis, PM
Secretary
Unity #130

David

Thank you for your reply. I actually have what appear to be at least three sets of slides some of which came from lodges that had shut down or merged. They were a collection from a gentleman who passed away a few years ago and his daughter gave them to the lodge. I know that we do not have the lantern as our lodge building burnt down in the 1950s. I do know of at

least one lodge in the state that still has their projector and slides and will be making an effort to examine theirs as soon as I have had a chance to sort and clean the slides in my possession.

My main goal is to find a set of images that can be scanned and then used in our lodge. Though what I have learned while exploring the subject leads me to believe that I may become more involved in finding and preserving slides but one thing at a time.

Some of the slides have wood frames and some do not. One set is in wood frames that are designed to take off one end and remove the slide. None of the glass plates have been separated and I have no intention of doing so. Thank you very much for taking the time to respond to me.

From David Evans

Hello Lee

Sounds like an interesting project you have got yourself into. Wood mounted slides tend to be a bit earlier generally. Lodge slides were often of very fine quality and many lodges were reluctant to dispose of their sets. Could you keep us informed about the progress you make? I have printed lists of the titles of many lodge sets but have quite often never seen the slides that go with the titles.

I do have a few sets but only the more common ones.

Regards

Dear Mr Lewis

It was quite common for lodges to have sets of slides for several of the ceremonies and quite often a special lantern to project them with. Are your slides mounted in wood frames or just regular 4" x 3 1/4" glass?

Really all you can do is carefully clean the outside of the slides. A small dash of methyl alcohol in a glass of water and a small damp sponge or soft paper applied will take films of dust quite effectively. Don't try to separate the two layers of glass or you will probably damage the image. Any dust between the layers is best left alone unless you are a specialist photographic restorer. Don't get them wet, just slightly damp will be sufficient. If they are wood mounted there are a few more things you could do.

I hope that helps a little, but do please get back to me if you wish to.

Thank you for contacting us.

Regards

David Evans

Automatic Slide Changer

JANUARY, 1912.

MOTOGRAHY

No. 1,003,774. Stereopticon with Automatic Slide Changer. Ferdinand F. Metzger, Philadelphia, Pa., assignor to Williams, Browne & Earle, Incorporated, Philadelphia, Pa.

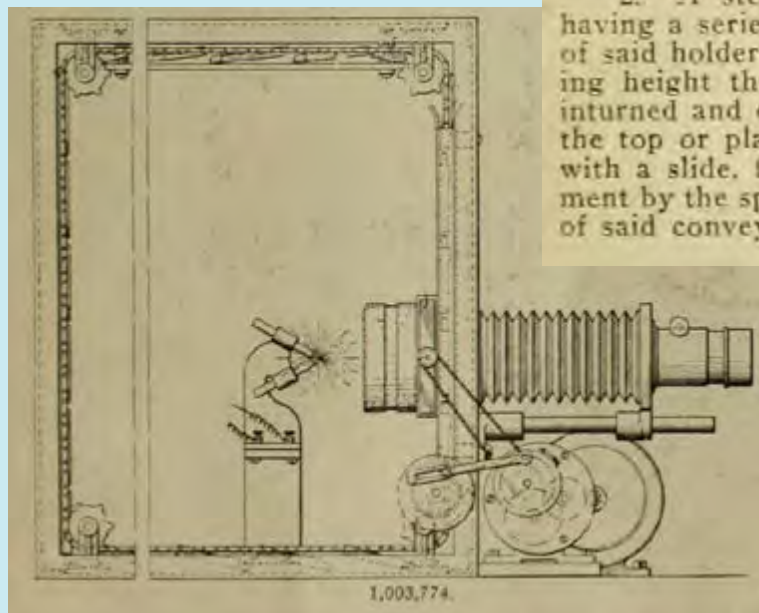
The firm to which this patent is assigned is a maker of sundry forms of advertising stereopticons for window display, etc. The device of the present patent is adapted for this work, and is shown driven by a continuously moving electric motor which changes the slides at regular intervals. The apparatus, however, is fully applicable to the projection of a series of slides in a theater, for song or lecturer, if so desired.

The novelty of the device is found in an endless chain of slide carriers into which the slides may be dropped, one slide in each carrier. The machine does the rest automatically.

The illustration is self-explanatory as to mechanism, and the claims of the patent are as follows:

1. A stereopticon provided with an endless conveyor having a series of swinging slide, film or plate holders, each of said holders having one end and two sides of corresponding height and both sides in one portion intumed and bent downward into spring clamps below the top or plane of the sides of said holder, in combination with a slide, film or plate adapted to be held in position by the spring clamps of said holder.

2. A stereopticon provided with an endless conveyor having a series of swinging rectangular-shaped holders, each of said holders having one end and two sides of corresponding height throughout and both sides in the front portion intumed and downwardly bent into flat spring clamps below the top or plane of the sides of said holder, in combination with a slide, film or plate adapted to be held against movement by the spring clamps and end of said holder in the travel of said conveyor.





SAN FRANCISCO SLIDES. SLIDES. SLIDES.

The Most Realistic and Sensational Slides ever seen on canvas, showing the destruction of the Beautiful City of the Golden Gate; THE FLAME SWEPT CITY; Thousands of People Flying for Their Lives; Blocks of Beautiful Buildings Blown up by Dynamite; Soldiers Shooting Thieves; The Work of Rescue; Carrying off the Dead; Chinatown in Flames; Millionaire and Beggar in the Bread Line, and many other thrilling pictures.

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REMEMBER, We are the largest Stereopticon and Lantern Slide Company in the Country, and we sell the greatest Lantern on the market. All complete for \$23. Song Sets, \$5. Songs Illustrated. Theatres, Managers, Parks and Trade supplied.

THE ELITE LANTERN SLIDE CO.,
207 W. 34TH ST., NEW YORK.

Seattle Goodwill Slides on E-Bay



Seattle Goodwill

https://www.ebay.com/sch/262413/i.html?_ssn=seattlegoodwill&store_name=seattlegoodwill&_oac=1#item49458e4960

ebay



#4 Antique Magic Lantern Glass Slide - NO Frame LOT

Condition: Used

Time left: 4d 8h | Sunday, 08:46 PM

Starting bid: US \$9.99

[0 bids]

Sixty Thousand Lantern Slides



Largest "Movie" Screen in the World.

The largest "movie" screen in the world is to be one of the features of the Methodist Episcopal Centenary celebration at Columbus, Ohio, next June, which will follow the conclusion of the drive to raise \$105,000,000 for social welfare and world betterment. The screen measures 90 by 100 feet. The pictures to be thrown upon it will depict native life and mission projects in the Orient and other parts of the world.

In addition to the moving pictures more than 60,000 stereopticon slides will be exhibited during the exposition. Nearly 20,000 people will take part in the various pageants to be presented during the celebration.

A Big Thank You to the following:
contributing to this months issue.

Ron Easterday
David Evans
Vanessa Hines
Lindsay Lambert
Lee A. Lewis
Chuck and Sara Meye
Brian Rogers

**Now it's your turn
to share!**

Do you have a favorite site or a
collection of images you would like to
share with the rest of the society?

Because there is only a
small core of member
contributors of material
for the e-pub this issue
of the e-pub is loaded
with historical items
about the lantern.

Please comment or send
your item to email link
below:

E-mail Larry

Marshall's Slide Binder

From Lindsay Lambert
m.lindsaylambert@gmail.com

Dear David,

Regarding the Marshall's slide binder

Here's another eBay listing for
a Marshall's slide binder, with a
promotional or instructions booklet:

<https://www.ebay.ca/itm/234890530155?mkevt=1&mkcid=1&mkrid=706-53473-19255-0&campid=5338722076&customid=&toolid=10050&amdata=enc%3AAQAIAAAAKNBHUwoEFJIT3Lp3BPQfxJw77IEI-cAqQZad5kgZTAilC48sptn1Gb4ENwxKu0L3M-6H131LANugXIBsfgrTjOenQN1TEclOWs8U0iuQNqjnsaELhXm19%2FVuUZEikxLW68VkQwc5ju9tuXFrySc17%2FAOQo2sSpm1nEshuWA0Z1Scs-Q3RqW8hq2e1L1rDJ%2Fq4w%3D%3D>

Vintage Marshall Studios Slide Binder Cast
Iron Photography Film Editing



Price: **US \$17.79**
Approximately C \$23.62
Was US \$25.42 ©
Save US \$7.63 (30% off)



**Group Northwest Has
August 20 Meeting Date**

An
Opportunity
for



For additional information and
location click here

LARRY

- join us for a fun & informative time
- share your latest find or story